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Ch
648.41258X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: OKUNO et al.

Serial No.: 10/083,545

Filed: February 27, 2002

For: RAILWAY CAR

Art Unit: 3617

Examiner: F. Jules

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 20, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find an European Search Report in connection with an European Patent Application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed are copies of the documents cited in this European Search Report. Further enclosed is a Form, substantially equal to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application, but prior to a Final Office Action or issuance of a Notice of Allowance, or issuance of any other action closing prosecution on the merits in the above-identified application. For satisfying requirements of 37 CFR §1.97(c), the following Statement is made under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1):

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in

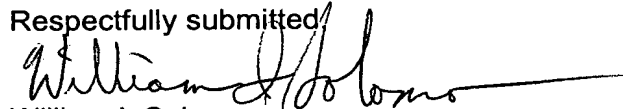
a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the citation of relevant passages in the documents as set forth in the enclosed European Search Report.

In view of all the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 648.41258X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



William I. Solomon

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10/083.545

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3617**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in confirmation and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.